



HINGES & TONGS

ROCHESTER PHILATELIC
ASSOCIATION, INC

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June-July 1999

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The success of your club's newsletter is dependent in part on what is submitted for publication. Please, if you have something to share send it to the editor. We are always looking for positive input, so why don't you drop me a line



<http://www.frontiernet.net/~stampmf/rpa/rpa.html>

Check out the RPA Home Page

Chapter Member of the
American Philatelic Society
207-19273
Chapter 69
American First Day Cover Society



NIAGARA FALLS

MAY 12, 1999

By CHUCK SCHULTZ



Niagara Falls, N.Y. was the site of another First Day of Issue. The event was scheduled from 10 a.m. to Noon on May 12, 1999 at the Orin Lehman Visitors Center in the Niagara Reservation State Park. The park is noted as the oldest State Park in the United States. This is the same site that the Love stamp was issued a few years ago.

1998-99 RPA Officers

President- Tom Fortunato

Vice President- Ed Kawasaki

Treasurer- Dave Roehrig

Corresponding Secretary & Librarian- Joe Doles

Recording Secretary- Jim Piecuch

Immediate RPA Past President- Paul Gerwitz

Board of Governors

Rick Kase (term expires June 30, 1999)

Chuck Schultz (term expires June 30, 2000)

Ray Stone (term expires June 30, 2001)

Membership Chairperson- Florence Wright

At a little after 10 a.m. the 48 cent Niagara Falls stamp was being sold by the United States Postal Service. There were plenty of experienced Postal People and the sales of the International rate stamp went quickly. Selling the stamps prior to the ceremony gave us First Day cover collectors time to prepare covers and other materials for cancellation. Anyone who has done a First Day with Rick Kase knows that there will be a number of "other" things related to the stamp that will need preparation.

Niagara Falls by Chuck Schultz

(Continued on page 2)

We meet on the second and fourth Thursday of most months between September and June. Our headquarters are in St. Paul's Episcopal Church Parish Hall, on the corner of East Avenue and Vick Park B, across from the George Eastman House. A buy/sell/trade session runs from 7-7:45 PM, followed by the formal meeting at 7:45 PM. A silent auction concludes most evening's program.

(Continued from page 1)

Niagara Falls by Chuck Schultz

The Ceremony started at 11 a.m. and was held in the Visitors Center Theatre. A little over a hundred people in attendance. The ceremony programs were given out as you entered the theatre. The ceremony lasted about 20 minutes. James Galie Mayor of Niagara Falls gave an enthusiastic welcome to the stamp and all the ceremony attendees. James Grubiak Vice President International Business for the U.S. Postal Service did the dedication of the stamp. He spoke about the New International Stamps emphasizing our National Treasures. He also presented framed reproductions to the other participants in the ceremony. This included Kurt Ross photographer of the Niagara Falls stamp.

Following the ceremony all the participants were available for autographs. The Postal Service also had a large cake made with a picture of the Niagara Falls stamp on it for all the ceremony attendees. The punch and strawberry filled cake were great energy boosters for those of us going on for some u. o.'s First Day cancels following the ceremony.

The Postal Service had several accommodating people available and the First Day cancels went quickly. Also following the ceremony a film about Niagara Falls was shown in the Visitors Center Theatre. Those of us who routinely attend First Day ceremonies sometimes lose sight of the person, place or event being honored. This film gave you a real feeling of the beauty and strength of Niagara Falls

Optical Character Reader (OCR): An automated mail processing machine that optically scans letter mail, locates the address and translates the address information into a bar code representation of the ZIP+4 delivery point bar code

Universal service: The Postal Service's mandate and commitment to the nation to provide mail delivery service at uniform and reasonable rates to everyone, everywhere, six days a week

Speculative: A stamp or issue released primarily for sale to collectors, rather than to meet any legitimate postal need.

ACE Member of the Year

It's never too late to be honored for a job well done. RPA member **George Hill** was selected as Member of the Year for 1998 by the membership of the **Art**

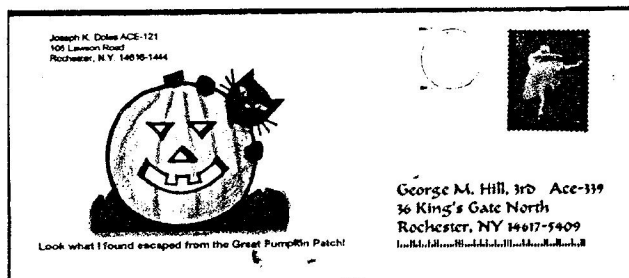


Cover Exchange. George is the current vice president of ACE. Local Rochester ACE'ers took George to lunch at the Perinton mall Applebee's. In attendance were **Ada Prill, Erma Whitbeck, Audrey Pankratz, Paul Gerwitz** and **Joe Doles**. **Dusty Miller** was there also. Dusty is now our latest ACE member. George was pre-

sented with a framed MOY certificate.

As ACE VP and co-editor of From Cover-To-Cover, the ACE monthly newsletter, George has been a major force in the growth and improvements made in ACE programs. The ACE slide show produced by George has been shown to four stamp collecting groups in the Rochester area.

The **ART Cover Exchange** is a group of folks that exchange handmade covers and letters with one another. The original club was formed in 1935 by **Leonard J. Turley**. It was known as the Ace of Clubs. His great idea was simple; "Send a cover with a handmade cachet to a member and receive one in return." Now over 50 years later, the descendants of Mr. Turley have revived the **Art Cover Exchange**. The concept of the original club continues and the goals remain the same. A club for



A TYPICAL ACE COVER

pleasure, not profit.

If you're interested in joining ACE the dues are just \$7.00 a year. More information can be had by contacting **Joe Doles**, ACE treasurer.



Guest columnist George M. Hill, 3rd, formerly a PNC*
(Part One - - "Overcoming Inertia")

Gotcha! You thought this article was on Plate Numbered Coils...but it concerns the *Perpetual Novice Collector. I use the title, "collector" with tongue in check because this kind of collector really is only an accumulator.

A PNC could just be lazy or lack motivation and direction. It takes a fair amount of direction to put together a nice, meaningful collection. Direction comes from study and a desire to leave a memorable, well designed, and interesting collection to satisfy ones' ego. Ego, of course, is that human trait that makes us overcome obstacles and achieve levels of accomplishment not envisioned by others.

It all begins with "interest" in a topic. Topical interest is derived from viewing a stamp that makes us reach beyond the inertia of getting started as a "collector". In my case, it was viewing adventurous galleons of the past plowing forward through the sea in full sail. Stories of seamanship and a personal avid interest in sailing provided the additional fuel to overcome inertia. Inertia defined: A body at rest tends to remain at rest, BUT a body in motion tends to remain in motion.

By definition, if inertia can be overcome by interest, it behooves one to associate with "collectors" and search (study) the areas of our interests to narrow the field to that which can be accomplished. I have seen in print that some philatelists "collect the world." That is not likely since the topic is so broad that being an "expert" becomes virtually impossible.

If, like me, you have had the title PNC after your name, perhaps you can relate to the evolving story that will appear in our newsletter. See you next time with "Faltering First Steps".

Imperforate: Indicates stamps without perforations or separating holes. They usually are separated by scissors and collected in pairs.

How to Prepare First Day Covers

Basic Information

Customers usually have 30 days to obtain first day of issue postmarks by mail. Sometimes the deadline is extended when the stamps or postal stationery are not readily available in post offices..

Purchase the new stamps or postal stationary items at a local post office, local philatelic center, or by mail from the Philatelic Fulfillment Service Center..

Collectors should affix the stamps to the upper right corner of envelopes (making sure the total postage affixed is 33 cents or more). Envelopes can be either plain or with special cachet designs for that particular issue. Covers for a new stamp or stationary item may include additional uncanceled postage issued before the new item. Covers may not include postage issued after the new item's cancellation date (such covers will be returned unserved by the USPS).

Address the envelopes (to yourself or others) using light pencil or peelable return address labels that can be removed after the cover is returned. Insert a card of postcard thickness for sturdiness, and tuck in the flap. Place the envelopes in a larger envelope addressed to the first day city. The address is:

CUSTOMER AFFIXED ENVELOPES

NAME OF STAMP

POSTMASTER

FIRST DAY CITY, STATE ZIP CODE-9991

where the *name of the stamp, first day city, state and zip code* refer to the particular info for that issue.

Requests must be postmarked on or before the deadline.

Additional Information

Look for information on new issues at your local post office, in the Stamp News Releases on the USPS WWW Server, on these web pages, or in philatelic publications such as Linn's Stamp News. The USPS also has a written publication called Stamps & Postal Stationery with first day information. A current copy of that publication can be obtained by sending your name and address (using ZIP+4 code) and a request to:

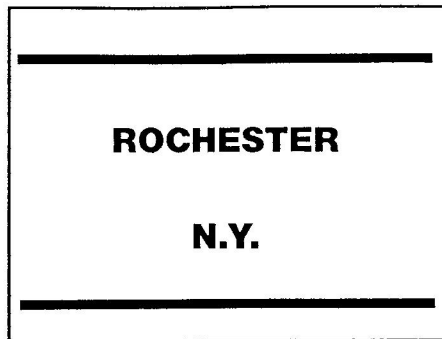
**STAMPED PAPER ANNOUNCEMENT
PHILATELIC FULFILLMENT SERVICE CENTER**

BOX 449997

KANSAS CITY, MO 64144-9997



+



= \$825

What do you get when you add a common stamp and a common precancel to make an uncommon combination? About \$825.

Both the stamp and the Rochester, N.Y., precancel illustrated above are common. But that style of Bureau precancel (known as type 71) is extremely scarce on the 4¢ Lincoln coil stamp of 1966.

It has long been known that the handful of Lincoln coil stamps with that precancel were worth hundreds each, but it wasn't confirmed until a copy recently sold in a Dave Smith auction for \$825, according to a report in *The Precancel Forum*, publication of the Precancel Stamp Society.

For information about the PSS, write to 415 Crestline, Missoula, MT 59803.

In Memoriam

Paul G. Denniger

Peacefully, May 17, 1999

Perfins by Ken Stewart

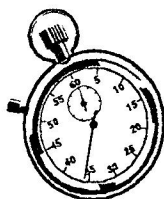
Perfins are stamps that have the initials of various firms and government bodies perforated into the stamp. In this country (US), they are referred to as either US or foreign perfins. They are generally saved in some sort of alphabetical format even though many collectors also save them by industry, such as collecting railroad perfins. Perfins are often acquired by the envelope full, and the first job facing the collector is sorting them alphabetically. You could, of course, just sort them on the kitchen table, but what do you do with them when it is time to eat? A simple solution to this and other sorting problems is egg cartons, especially the two dozen size. You can leave the tops on, but when I do this, I have the tendency to knock them over so I cut the tops off. It is easy to label each little egg hole with a piece of self-adhesive label and you are in business. The advantage to leaving the lids on is that you can close the lid and store your work when you have to quit. An advantage to cutting the lids off is that as you make more of these sorting boxes, they occupy less space when you stack them when not in use. Another solution to sorting is to make a 4 x 7 matrix out of wood or cardboard that has no bottom. I have one of these I made out of 1/4-inch wood. I just sort my stamps into it. Lift it off the floor and I have 28 neat little piles to play with. If you are going to work on these piles and not transfer them right away to envelopes, then it is a good idea to process the small piles first so that when you have to stop there is less filing to do.

Tagging Stamp --Safety:

Ken Stewart

Most countries use some sort of coating, underprinting, or paper that glows when subjected to UV light. Stamps that exhibit this behavior are called tagged. Tagged stamps are used in automated sorting equipment by the various postal authorities.

Collecting this material requires the collector to use a mineral lamp or UV light source. But because these lamps are dangerous to your eyes never look directly into the lamp to see if it is turned on. Relatively short exposures to Ultra Violet (UV) light can cause very painful burns to the corneas of your eyes. Exposure to UV can cause burns so severe that the surface of your eyes will blister. If you think a hair in your eye is painful, wait until you give yourself a case of welders flash by blistering your eyes with a UV lamp. Wear glasses if possible when using your lamp to check the tagging on your stamps. The glass or plastic in the glasses will absorb a considerable amount of the reflected light. Limit the use of your lamp to the shortest period you can. Accomplish this by doing as much sorting and arranging of the stamps as possible before you light your lamp.



There is another reason for limiting the amount of time you have your lamp on. This is economic. The filter on your lamp has a set life time. It can be used with maximum effect for only so many hours and then it needs to be replaced. Therefore, plan ahead on how and when you will use your lamp to check the tagging on stamps. You will save money in the long run and possibly pain in the short..



RPA Project

Your Help is Needed

The Rochester Philatelic Association requests your assistance. We are planning to publish a **Postal History of Monroe County.**

We need people to research the following:

Lists of postmasters in the entire county.

Location of early and earliest Post Offices.

Stamps commemorating celebrities of the area, i.e.: Susan B. Anthony, George Eastman, Fredrick Douglas, etc.

Cancellations:

Manuscript, duplex, machine, flag, oval, double circle or oval, fancy, steam or steamboat, free, advertised, train late, etc..... And the earliest known of any type.

Covers:

Stampless, 1847, 1851, 1869, bank note, Erie Canal, railroad and route agents, cross the border to Canada, special handling, registered, advertising, postage due, certified, first flights, special events, First Day, held for postage, patriotic (any war). Basically, any facet of postal history.

We would appreciate a copy (Xerox or photograph) of any piece of postal history you feel might be used for this project. Any member who is proficient in writing may submit an article suitable for this endeavor.

Please give thought to this effort. We would like to have this published in memory of two past members of the RPA, postal historians of Monroe County: **Warren Stevens** and **Joe Pal**.

Joe Doles will work with anyone interested in making copies of materials to be used in this project.

TIMELY TOPICS

Topical collecting was the emphasis of the RPA program on May 27, with "Women on Stamps" and "Old Glory on Foreign Stamps" the subjects of two slide shows. Coming between Mothers' Day and Memorial Day, the slide presentations were particularly timely.

Florence Wright, ATA representative, arranged the shows from the American Topical Association slide library. (Rochester Philatelic Association is ATA Chapter #84).

"Women on Stamps" (which happens to be one of Florence Wright's interests) was prepared by Ann Kennedy of Saudi Arabia, a member of the Women on Stamps study group.

The "Old Glory" program, while several years old, depicted foreign stamps that had the American flag displayed. It was arranged into several sub-categories, such as "firsts," Olympic games and exhibitions, American presidents, and others.

Any members interested in topical collecting may borrow copies of "Topical Time" the ATA's publication from the RPA library.

+ + +

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

RPA is pleased to welcome two new members to the group.

Linda K. Floyd of Rochester collects topics such as literary figures and flowers, and first day covers.

Thomas Berrian of Fairport has philatelic interests in Thailand, Costa Rica, Malaya and Europe (and the world, countries A through M!)

Do you know anyone who might like to become a member of Stamp Club? Remember, you may earn a year's free dues if you enlist two new members! Currently, Ada Prill earned free dues for the coming year.

DUES FOR 2000

Your membership dues for the year 1999-2000 are \$15.00 and are due now. There has been a good response from several members at the last few meetings to pay their dues, but there are still 65 of you who need to renew.

For the summer, please send your check to Florence Wright, Membership Chairman, at 33 Northumberland Rd., Rochester NY 14618-2405.

Have a Happy Summer!

CINDERELLAS, ANYONE? No, not the kind with a glass slipper, but philatelic (?) cinderellas: poster stamps, charity seals, political stickers, railroad stamps, telegraph stamps, etc.

The Cinderella Stamp Club of Great Britain publishes a quarterly journal, "The Cinderella Philatelist," which is full of interesting articles on a variety of related subjects. Write or call F. Wright to borrow copies which she has from this group.

1999-2000

RPA Officers

President- Ed Kawasaki

Vice President- John Kellas, 3rd

Treasurer- Dave Roehrig

Corresponding Secretary - Joe Boles

Recording Secretary- Jim Hecuch

Immediate RPA Past President- Tom Fortunato

Board of Governors

Chuck Schultz (term expires June 30, 2000)

Ray Stone (term expires June 30, 2001)

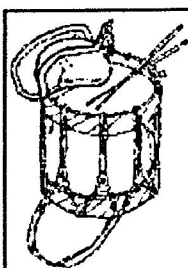
Norman Wright (term expires June 30, 2002)

Membership Chairperson- Florence Wright

The above officers were elected to office at our combination last meeting for the 98-99 season and annual banquet. The 1999-2000 term begins July 1, 1999. New names to the executive board are **John Kellas, III** and **Norm Wright**. Both are long time RPA members and have held seats on the board in the past. The position of vice-president is responsible for programming. If you have any requests or ideas for programs please contact John Kellas, III.

The annual banquet and auction this year was held at the Episcopal Church on a normal meeting night. The meal was catered by **Runds' on the Ridge**. Nearly 40 people enjoyed the meal and the auction that followed. Everyone agreed it was a good idea to have it catered at the church and gave a round of applause for Ed Kawasaki and Tom Fortunato for having made all the arrangements.

Members of the board wish all a safe and happy summer. We'll see you in September.



Hervey Ely House

Built in 1837
11 Livingston Park

HEH Station
Rochester, NY 14608
September 9, 1999



JCC Maccabi Games
Station
Rochester, NY 14618
August 15 - 20

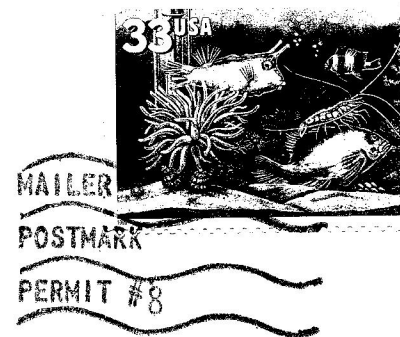
Obtaining Pictorial Cancellations

To obtain these cancellations, prepare a stamped, return addressed envelope or post card with appropriate postage. Orders for all pictorial cancellations should be sent in an outer envelope addressed to the postmaster for the listed city. Identifications and dates of cancels should be marked on the outer envelope. It is not necessary to include a note unless special instructions are needed. Include the four-digit '9998' in all ZIP codes. Your request should be sent within 30 days after the date(s) in the cancellations, although some postmasters will honor requests received within a reasonable time thereafter. Where multiple dates are listed, requests may be submitted for specific date(s).

Hinges & Tongs

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9205
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